

SEL

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN of SWANZEY,

For the Year Ending February 16th,

1867.

KEENE:

PRINTED AT THE CHESHIRE REPUBLICAN JOB OFFICE.

1867.



288

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMISSIONER

OF THE

TOWN OF SWANSEA

For the Year Ending February 1887

1887

PRINTED

AND SOLD BY THE CHIEF CLERK OF THE TOWN OF SWANSEA

1887

REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN
AND
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
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REPORTS

SELECTED

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE

TOWN OF SWANSEY

1887

PRINTED AT THE CHURCH STREET BOOK BINDERY

1887

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

We, the undersigned, Selectmen of Swanzey, respectfully submit the following report :

APRIL INVOICE, 1866.

Total valuation including polls,	\$601,987 00
Rate per cent.,	2 20
	<u>\$13,243 71</u>
Fraction gained in computing tax,	61
Tax on 99 male dogs,	99 00
“ “ 10 female “	20 00
Non-resident highway tax,	62 36
Amount put in collector's hands,	<u>\$13,425 68</u>

RECEIPTS FOR 1866.

Cash remaining in the Treasury at the close of the report for 1865,	\$3,386 53
Balance of tax in the hands of the collector for 1865,	<u>1,716 83</u>
	\$5,10 36

BORROWED

SINCE REPORT OF LAST YEAR.

Feb. 19, 1866,	John Stratton,	\$1,000 00
Mar. 10, "	Mrs. Lucy A. Taft,	600 00
" 16, "	Samuel Farris,	500 00
" 29, "	E. C. Fisk,	700 00
" 30, "	E. Marble,	100 00
" 31, "	Vesta W. Stone,	100 00
Apr. 24, "	Martha I. Graves,	330 00
" " "	Enoch Howes,	150 00
May 5, "	Orin F. Oakman,	300 00
June 13, "	John Stratton,	438 87
Sept. 23, 1865,	Mrs. Mary L. Wilson,	450 00
" " "	Sophrona Hunt,	300 00
" 10, 1866,	Chas. Talbot,	140 00
Oct. 18, "	A. W. Baley,	500 00
" " "	A. Fuller,	200 00
Jan. 1, 1867,	Miss E. S. Crouch,	100 00
		<hr/>
		\$5,908 87

RECEIPTS CONTINUED.

Total amount of money taxes assessed for 1866,		
including the Non-resident highway tax,		\$13,425 68
Received from the State Soldier's aid		919 61
" Savings Bank tax for 1865,		207 57
" " " " 1866,		195 27
" Railroad tax for 1864 and 5,		287 27
" " " " 1866,		211 12
" Literary fund for 1865,		51 10
" " " " 1866,		76 65
" U. S. Bounty,		240 00
" E. Lane, for lumber,		3 94
" County for support of A. J. Underwood,		236 21
" J. Wilson, note and interest,		42 80
		<hr/>
		\$15,246 52

DISBURSEMENTS.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid J. Parsons, Selectman,	Services for 1865,	\$110 00	
" S. Faulkner, "	" " "	130 00	
" T. T. Wetherbee, "	" " "	112 00	
" A. A. Ware, Supt. S. Committee,		50 00	
" Enoch Howes, Treasurer,	" "	25 00	
" Chiron Holbrook, Collector,	" "	62 50	
" George Whitcomb, Sexton,	" "	60 17	
			\$549 67
Paid State Treasurer State Tax,		\$3,915 00	
" County Treasurer County Tax,		1,480 55	
			\$5,395 55

REPAIRS OF HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid David Whitcomb, outstanding order,	\$10 00
" Aaron Hammond, for Bridge Plank,	50 57
" William Read, " " "	28 00
" William Moore, " Labor on Highway,	2 75
" William C. Belding, " " "	3 00
" Philo Applin, " " " "	1 50
" E. O. Whitcomb, for Bridge Plank	3 03
" William Woodward, Labor and Plank,	12 60
" George H. Moore, Snowing Bridge,	13 00
" Alfred Britton, Labor on Highway,	52 00
" Samuel Thompson, Bridge Plank and labor,	9 00
" O. F. Davis, for Snowing Bridge,	3 50
" Amasa Ballou, for building Bridges,	12 90
" Martin Perry, Bridge Plank and Timber,	22 24
" Manning Hunt, Labor on Bridge,	1 50
" L. S. Lane, for Bridge Plank,	16 56
" Luther Whittemore, for Stone Work,	25 00
" Orin Black, for Railing,	5 00
" L. N. Howes, for Bridge Timber,	15 02
" Willard Ballou, for labor on Bridge,	13 67
" E. A. Thatcher, Labor on Highway,	3 00
" Moses Worster, for Bridge Plank,	7 17
" Edwin Snow, Plank and Labor on Highway,	2 52

" Henry Hill, Labor on Bridge,	10 00
" David Whitcomb, Jr., Labor on Bridge,	12 50
" Jeremiah Hale, Labor on Bridge, Unionville,	5 20
" L. N. Howes, " " " "	1 50
" William Woodward, Labor on Highway,	6 50
" David Whitcomb, for Stone,	7 00
" Sylvander Stone, for Hauling Stone,	7 00
" David Parsons, Repairing covered Bridge,	7 00

\$359 73

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

District No. 1, Aaron Lebourveau,	\$82 53
" " 2, Silas B. Partridge,	168 06
" " 3, Moses Worster,	79 61
" " 4, D. R. Marshall,	73 22
" " 5, George H. Moore,	123 73
" " 6, Henry C. Clark,	65 81
" " 7, Geo. W. Faulkner,	99 36
" " 8, James E. Bolles,	93 85
" " 9, David W. Harris,	88 08
" " 10, Wm. C. Belding,	136 61
" " 11, J. L. Parker,	179 92
" " 12, J. J. Hill,	40 37
" " 13, George O. Capron,	119 95

\$1,351 10

STATE AID TO SOLDIERS.

Chas. H. Holbrook,	\$48 00
Geo. W. Ellis,	8 00
	<hr/> \$56 00

NOTES AND INTEREST PAID SINCE REPORT FOR LAST YEAR.

David Pelkey, note and interest,	\$317 35
Henry Starkey, Jr., note and interest,	306 80
Charles H. Howard,	655 61
Lewis Campbell,	506 67
Geo. W. Eastman,	314 94
G. G. Willis,	1085 06

S. S. Farris,	1550 83
Roswell Whitcomb,	298 25
Willard Adams,	424 68
C. Whitcomb & Co., interest,	600 00
Mrs. H. Wetherbee, note and interest,	104 18
George Cross, interest,	6 00
J. W. Starkey, " on Bryant notes,	177 00
Lewis H. Hunt, note and interest,	529 08
Clark H. Houghton, note and interest,	413 60
Lewis Carpenter, " " "	618 60
Mrs. Mary L. Wilson, interest,	54 00
" Emma S. Cass, note and interest,	324 30
" Silence Starkey, (endorsed on note,)	10 00
Zadock L. Taft, " " "	299 00
John Stratton, note and interest,	578 87
F. C. Whitcomb, note and interest,	349 03
Francis Cook, interest,	60 52
Aaron Dickinson's Estate, note and interest,	333 58
J. N. Forristall, interest,	21 00
Mrs. Aurelia Whitcomb, interest,	9 25
" Sophrona Hunt, "	18 00
Lemuel O. Hunt, note,	300 00
Edward Dickinson, "	450 00
Enoch Howes, note, and interest,	234 00
Arza Higgins, " " "	107 92
Clark Dodge, " " "	315 00
Savings Bank, (Keene,) interest,	660 00
Misses Balls, "	30 00
Geo. W. Faulkner, "	8 50
A. & J. Holbrook, "	63 00
B. F. Lombard, note and interest,	217 14
Benj. Pierce, interest,	391 95
Nathan Winch, "	94 69
J. W. Starkey, note and interest,	1030 36
Henry Abbott, " " "	314 00
J. D. Ware, interest,	21 00
Congregational Society, interest,	7 20
Mrs. Almira Hews, note and interest,	63 43
Charles Marsh, " " "	1190 00

\$15,464 39

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid Asylum for the Insane at Concord, for the support of A. J. Underwood and Sarah Dickinson,	\$442 41	
" House of Reformation for support of Jacob, Stephenson,	11 99	
" For the support of Otis Olcott,	66 77	
" " " " " Josiah Wilson,	10 00	
" J. W. Starkey, for the support of poor for the quarter ending April 1st, 1866,	197 50	
		<hr/>
		\$728 67

INCIDENTALS.

John S. Sargent, Damage by defect in Highway,	\$7 00	
T. T. Wetherbee, expenses to Concord,	10 50	
E. H. Aldrich, toling bell,	9 00	
E. Howes, " "	9 75	
L. Wetherbee, Hopper for Town Sealer,	2 00	
W. S. Briggs, Sealing Weights and Measures,	1 38	
N. H. Sentinel, for publishing notice for discontinuing Highway,	4 50	
Wheeler & Faulkner, Retaining Fee for 1866,	5 00	
Cheshire Republican, printing Town Reports for 1866,	25 00	
Joseph Hammond, Outstanding order,	4 00	
Public Watering Places, 6 in number,	18 00	
County Commissioner's on Very Road case,	39 90	
Refunded to owners of lots in Cemetery,	29 14	
Damage for dogs killing sheep,	24 00	
Discount for overtax for 1865,	31 75	
" " " " " 1866,	70 21	
Blank Books, Stationery & Revenue Stamps,	16 28	
Abatement for 1865,	42 79	
Non-resident highway-tax paid in labor,	13 89	
		<hr/>
		\$364 09

RECAPITULATION.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in Treasury at close of report for 1865,	\$3,386 53
Balance of tax in collector's hands for 1865,	1,716 83
Borrowed since report for last year,	5,908 87
Total amount of money taxes assessed for 1866, including non-resident Highway tax,	13,425 68
From State, aid for Soldiers,	919 61
“ “ Savings Bank tax for 1865,	207 57
“ “ “ “ “ “ 1866,	195 27
“ “ Railroad tax for 1864 and '5,	287 27
“ “ “ “ “ “ 1866,	211 12
“ “ Literary fund for 1865,	51 10
“ “ “ “ “ “ 1866,	76 65
“ “ U. S. Bounty,	240 00
E. Lane, for lumber,	3 94
County for support of A. J. Underwood,	236 21
J. Wilson Note and interest,	42 80
	<hr/>
	\$26,909 45

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Town Officers,	\$549 67
“ State Tax,	3,915 00
“ County Tax,	1,480 55
“ Repairs of Roads and Bridges,	359 73
“ Support of Schools,	1,351 10
“ State aid to Soldiers,	56 00
“ Notes and Interest,	15,464 39
“ Support of Poor,	728 67
“ Incidentals,	364 09
Cash in Treasury,	1,426 37
Balance of tax in Collector's hands,	962 80
“ Note U. S Collector for 1865,	251 08
	<hr/>
	\$26,909 45

LIABILITIES.

Dec. 3, 1861. Note at Savings Bank, Keene, Interest paid,	\$1,000 00
Sept. 14, 1862. Note at Savings Bank, Keene, Interest paid,	6,000 00
Nov. 3, 1862. Note at Savings Bank, Keene, Interest paid	2,000 00
Dec. 1, 1863. Note to Nathan Winch, int. paid,	1,562 50
Nov. 1, 1863. Enoch Howes, int. paid,	1,400 00
Oct. 6, 1863. A. & J. Holbrook, int. paid,	750 00
Jan. 1, 1864. A Kingsbury, int. not paid,	500 00
“ 24, 1863. J. D. Ware, int. paid,	350 00
“ 26, 1865. Alvin Starkey, int. not paid,	4,200 00
Apr. 11, 1863. Mrs. W. H. Knight, int. not paid,	200 00
Apr. 1, 1863. John Withington, Note, int. not paid,	130 00
Oct. 8, “ Luke Ellor, Note, int. not paid,	107 00
Dec. 30, “ Miss Almira Sawyer, Note int. not paid,	75 00
“ 25, “ Savings Bank, (Keene,) int. paid,	2,000 00
“ 29, “ Benjamin Pierce, notes, int. paid,	7,000 00
May 26, 1864. Miss R. Williams, notes int. not paid,	50 00
“ “ “ Congregational Society, int. paid,	120 00
June 7, 1864. A. Kingsbury, note, int. not paid,	1,500 00
July 21, 1864, D. R. Marshall, note, int. not paid,	300 00
“ 2, “ Calvin Bryant, Estate, int. paid,	1,000 00
Aug. 18, “ “ “ “ “ “	100 00
“ 30, “ Mrs. H. J. Clark, int. not paid,	300 00
Sept. 5, “ C. Whitecomb & Co., int. paid,	10,000 00
“ 2, “ Baley Corlis, int. not paid,	250 00
“ 5, “ J. N. Forristall, int. paid,	350 00
May 5, “ Francis Cook, int. paid,	1000 00
July 15, “ Henry S. Applin, int. not paid,	300 00
Oct. 1, “ Marshall Rixford, int. not paid,	300 00
Oct. 4, “ Zadock L. Taft, int paid,	500 00
“ “ “ Asahel W. Dunton, int. not paid,	500 00
“ 5, “ Francis Hills, int. paid,	198 35
“ 6, “ Martha I. Graves, held by S. Paige, int. not paid,	250 00
“ 17, “ Calvin Bryant, Estate, int. not paid,	100 00
“ 29, “ “ “ “ “ “	100 00

Oct. 29, 1864, Miss Arvilla S. Wilbur, int. not paid,	75 00
Nov. 22, " Noah Youngman, int. not paid,	500 00
Jan. 5, 1865. Ahas Cass, int. not paid,	100 00
" 6, " Zadock L. Taft, two notes,	181 00
" 9, " Lyman Holbrook int. not paid,	125 00
" 16, " Miss Lucy A. Taft, int. not paid,	326 00
" 9, " Meranda J. Holbrook, int. not paid,	75 00
Feb. 1, " Ahas Cass, int. not paid,	200 00
Sept. 23, 1865. Mrs. Mary L. Wilson, int. paid,	450 00
Feb. 8, " Wheeler & Faulkner, int. not paid,	179 97
" 9, " A. & J. Holbrook, int. paid,	300 00
" " " Noah Perry, int. not paid,	300 00
" 11, " Mrs. S. Bryant, int. not paid,	100 00
Mar. 14, " A. S. Wilbur, int not paid,	35 00
" 2, " C. Bryant, Estate, int. paid,	160 00
July 1, 1865, O. F. Oakman, int. not paid,	100 00
" 7, " Mrs. S. Starkey, int. not paid,	150 00
" 31, " J. C. Webber, int. not paid,	60 00
Aug. 10, " Geo. W. Faulkner, int. paid,	100 00
Mar. 25, " J. C. Webber, int. not paid,	102 83
Sept. 11, " L. R. Starkey, int. not paid,	300 00
Oct. 21, " D. W. Harris,	50 00
Nov. 14, " Alvan Starkey,	2000 00
Jan. 18, 1866. Mrs. M. E. Partridge,	250 00
Sept. 25, 1865. " Sophrona Hunt,	300 00
Feb. 12, 1866. " C. Marble,	250 00
Feb. 14, 1866. Mrs. S. Willis, int, not paid,	395 00
" 19, " John Stratton,	1000 00
Mar. 10, " Mrs. Lucy Taft,	600 00
" 29, " E. C. Fisk,	700 00
" 30 " E. Marble,	100 00
" 31, " Mrs. Vesta W. Stone,	100 00
Apr. 24, " Mrs. M. I. Graves,	330 00
May 5, " O. F. Oakman,	300 00
June 13, " John Stratton,	438 87
Sept. 10, " Chas. Talbott,	140 00
Oct. 18, " A. W. Baley,	500 00
" " " Amasa Fuller,	200 00
Jan. 1, 1867. Miss E. S. Crouch,	100 00
Geo. Cross,	100 00

Estimated due Town Officers for 1866,	600 00	
“ Interest due on notes,	900 00	
One outstanding order,	18 50	
		<u>\$57,785 02</u>

ASSETS.

Cash in the Treasury,	\$1,426 37	
Note U. S. Collector for 1865,	251 08	
Balance of tax in Collector's hands,	962 80	
Due from the County for the support of A. J. Underwood,	133 49	
		<u>\$2,773 74</u>
Total amount of Liabilities,	\$57,785 02	
“ “ Assets,	2,773 74	

Leaving the Indebtedness of the Town at this
date, Feb. 16, 1867, \$55,011 28

It may be proper in closing this Report to say that the item of \$2,160, reported in the assets last year as being due from the State for General Government Bounties, for nine men, has been canceled by a receipt from the State of \$240, hence our indebtedness would have been \$1,920 less, but for the loss in the above item.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOSIAH PARSONS,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
STEPHEN FAULKNER,	
T. T. WETHERBEE,	
	<i>of</i>
	<i>Swanzy.</i>

R E P O R T

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

THE Superintending School Committee of Swanzev, agreeably in compliance with the law, submits to the Town the following Report of the condition of our Common Schools for the year ending March 12, 1867.

District No. 1.—The *Summer* term was taught by Miss ELLEN TAFT. She commenced with the prospects of having a successful school; but a rebellious spirit rose in opposition, and in her attempts to subdue it she incurred the displeasure of a few who left the school. At the examination some scholars recited well and showed marks of good improvement; others recited indifferently, and besides were not very orderly in their deportment. There may not have been that firm discipline and judicious management of teacher—there was certainly a want of that co-operation in others necessary for the complete success of any teacher. We consider, however, Miss TAFT a faithful and well qualified teacher, but she evidently became discouraged in her efforts and slackened her reins of government.

Miss STELLA A. C. WARDWELL taught the *Winter* term, and succeeded in obtaining the general good will of her scholars; but the order and discipline were not what we most desired to see. The scholars were allowed to pass

over too much during the term for their best good. This is a very general failing with our schools. *Principles* should be studied as well as *rules*, and scholars should be taught to make a practical application of those principles in whatever they have to perform. The manners of Miss WARDWELL are pleasing to scholars, and secure her success in managing a school.

No. 2. The *Summer* and *Winter* terms were both taught by Miss HARRIET A. PARKER. To manage and teach this school of so many varieties of scholars, and in such a poor, ill-arranged house, requires the tact and ability of no ordinary teacher. But Miss PARKER proved herself competent for the charge, and carried both terms successfully through. The *Summer* School was marked for its quiet and orderly deportment. The *Winter* School would have appeared equally as well had it not been for a few who took exceptions to good regulations and proper corrections, which it was the teacher's duty to make. The examinations were well attended, and the exercises well managed and interesting, showing good progress and thorough training. The Prudential Committee and some others here performed their duty in visiting the school. An irregular attendance was the worst feature of the schools. We have been told that the people of this district have been about building a new school-house for the last sixteen years. But the old one still remains, yet in a dilapidated condition; presenting not one attractive feature except its venerable appearance.

No. 3. Miss EUGENIA M. LANE taught both of these schools. She was a beginner in teaching, yet managed her school well, and succeeded in gaining the good will of her pupils and the confidence of the parents. The examination of her first school gave evidence of a faithful teacher. The Prudential Committee, who was present, to see how the work was done, expressed his satisfaction

then, by engaging her services for the next term, which commenced Sept. 10. This was also a success and in some respects an improvement on the previous school. There were twenty-seven scholars in attendance, ten of whom were from other districts. We were glad to see so much pains taken with the younger members in Mental Arithmetic. There are some in this district interested in the welfare of their school, and will sustain a good one. More animation would improve this school.

No. 4. Miss LUCRETIA A. HOLBROOK was teacher of the *Summer* term. The school appeared well at the beginning and the teacher manifested considerable zeal in her work. Good attention was being paid to Geography, and the exercises in Reading were good. Notice was received from the teacher that her school would close on such a day. With reason to expect the examination was intended for the afternoon, the Committee went accordingly, but found the school had closed in the forenoon. We have confidence that the school was a successful one.

Miss HARRIET A. PARKER was employed for the *Winter* term. This was emphatically a good school. Scholars were disciplined to think and speak promptly in their recitations which rendered their appearance highly commendable. A good number of visitors were present at the examination who appeared highly interested with the exercises.

No. 5. Miss ELLEN E. PRIME taught the *Summer* term. The scholars were orderly in their deportment, and many of them made good improvement, and recited with particular credit. But some would have done better, and have been more thorough in their studies had they been more punctual and regular in their attendance. All were not present to take their share at the examination. A bad practice to be absent *then*.

Miss MARY S. WHITCOMB was teacher of the *Winter* term

Being disappointed about the time of examination the Committee was not present. Yet we have the best assurance that this was a successful school, and that the teacher met with her usual good success.

No. 6. The *Summer* term was taught by Miss MARY L. PARKER. She was a young teacher, yet she managed well, and labored earnestly and successfully for her school, which appeared commendable at the examination. Useful and practical instruction was given the scholars aside from the text books, a practice which should be followed by more of our teachers.

The *Winter* term was under the faithful charge of Miss MARY EATON. This was a good school, composed of interesting and orderly scholars. Particular credit is due to many of this district, of both scholars and parents, for the studious habits of these scholars, and their ambition to learn. Such warrants progress and secures success in life. The examination, Jan. 17, happened upon a very stormy day, yet the school appeared well, and the exercises were interesting.

No. 7. The *Summer* term was taught by Miss JENNIE M. FOSTER, who has the elements of a good teacher. Her manners in the school-room are calculated to awaken an interest and animation in her scholars. With so large a school, in six weeks' time, the teacher performed a good work; yet only a beginning in that work she could have accomplished in a respectable length of time. The examination showed all the improvement we could expect for the time. The scholars were regular and punctual in attendance.

The *Winter* term was taught by Miss JENNIE L. EVANS. Here we found fifty scholars accommodated with those long, antiquated benches, elevated on a steeply inclined plane that is graduated with a series of steps, up and down which scholars clamber to and from their seats. This

presents an imposing scene of those good old days of our conservative parents who designed this model of architecture! Those elevated scholars must often suffer headaches from the effects of the rarefied hot air rising from the heated stove, while those below must breathe a very different atmosphere, and often endure the extremes of heat and cold. At the examination the scholars appeared well. The Reading and recitations in Geography were generally good. By the register we noticed the attendance was very regular; twenty-five scholars neither absent or tardy, and only two instances of tardiness for the term.

No. 8. Miss ABBIE A. BRIGHAM taught both *Summer* and *Winter* terms. The first school was generally satisfactory. The scholars appeared orderly and quiet in their deportment, which was sufficient proof that they understood the propriety of good behavior. The district was, however, divided in their opinion of the teacher; some claiming that she did not manage according to the principles of justice and equality. At the examination the school appeared well, and good improvement was shown to have been made by most classes.

The *Winter* term did not prove to be what we had expected. Instead of trying to heal the past differences, new coals of fire were added, and the division of feelings became increased, and the opposition intense. The Committee was consulted in regard to a small difficulty and gave such instructions to the teacher as he thought, with a little tact and judgment of her own, would set matters right. Nothing being done to mend the difficulty, the Committee was obliged to execute those instructions himself, which if respectfully acquiesced in by the teacher would have settled the trouble at once. The teacher remained persistent in her will, and was unnecessarily lavish of expressions, before her school, unbecoming her dignity. The district remained divided in regard to her merits, as

shown by a petition presented a week before the close of the school, for her dismissal, signed by a majority of the legal voters of the district. She was permitted, however, to remain.

No. 9. Here we found good material for a school; bright, active, intelligent scholars. Miss ELLA E. ROCKWOOD, taught successfully the *Summer* term. Her school appeared orderly, and good progress was generally made. The Reading was above the average, and taught with special pains. The classes in Mental Arithmetic recited well and were not neglected. There was a fair attendance and not a tardy mark defaced the records.

The *Winter* term was taught by Miss EMMA E. BROWN. An excellent class of scholars made up this school. At the first visit of the Committee there was not, with a few, that proper regard for good order. There were signs of too much leniency in the government; but the school afterwards changed for the better, and good improvement was shown to have been made at the examination. Classes in Mental Arithmetic had been well drilled. Those in Geography did nicely and exhibited excellent specimens of map drawing.

No. 10. A good school-house and a neat, pleasant school-room are credited to this district. The school is much smaller than a few years since as shown by reports. Miss NELLIE S. KEITH taught the *Summer* term, who, by her experience and success merits the reputation of an excellent teacher. The scholars must have done well under the instruction they received.

Miss LUCIA E. COOK taught the *Winter* term. We visited this school during the first week, and found a class of mostly young scholars, pleasant and orderly in their appearance. The teacher was obliged to close her school before the time appointed for the examination on account of sickness; therefore we cannot so well judge of the pro-

gress. Too many marks of absence filled the Register. The cause is known to the parents who should seek to encourage a better attendance and thereby assist the work of the teacher. Everett Adams was the only scholar accredited for an attendance every day.

No. 11. The advantages of this district have been sufficient to place its schools among the best in Town; but these advantages have not been so well improved. A better co-operation would secure the desired preferment and give new encouragements and better success to the teacher. Mrs. LOUISE B. WRIGHT, with good success, taught the *Summer* and *Winter* terms; being the teacher of the last year, and having proved her ability to manage such a school, she found this year a less opposing element before her. The general deportment of the scholars was good. Most of the classes made good improvement. Considerable attention was given to Arithmetic. Some scholars took particular interest in Book-keeping, and showed good specimens of work at the examinations. The punctuality and attendance was not what is desirable for a school. Mrs. WRIGHT has the requisite energy and perseverance for a first class teacher, and the improvement she has wrought in her schools of this year is truly commendable.

No. 12. Here has been but one term for the year; this commenced Aug. 27; taught by Miss JENNIE L. EVANS. There was an attendance over two weeks of only eight different scholars of the district. With this small amount of schooling the district has done well to furnish such good examples of scholarship. Home influence and assistance have done much to help the scholars and make this school what it is. The teacher left this school two weeks before it was to close to commence another. The Register was not kept in a manner that a correct report can be made.

No. 13. This year shows better record for this district.

New interests have been awakened; more visits have been received from parents, and a better attendance shown by the scholars. Miss MARY N. PARSONS taught the *Summer* term with good success. The school under her management improved in its order, and a good progress was made for so short a time. The examination was satisfactory.

Mrs. E. JENNIE CUTLER took charge of the *Winter* school. The teacher was faithful and earnest in her work. The order and discipline good. Scholars improved particularly in their promptness in recitations, and exhibited the evidence of a well improved term.

We have given but a brief report of the twenty-five terms of school of the last year which have been taught by nineteen different teachers, most of whom have labored nobly for their charge, and have performed their duty well.

To teach, interest and discipline a school requires a teacher who is alive in the work, who has a love and inspiration for the business, and understands the minds and dispositions of all connected with the school. These are rare qualities, yet they are the first a teacher should possess to be enabled to manage a school successfully and *hold* every scholar's mind to the work. Many of our teachers *fail* through this want of influence over their scholars, which is often on account of their own deficiencies of character. Some teachers have less animation than others, and consequently impart less to their schools. We want those teachers who are more practical, who are not absolutely obliged to be confined to the questions of the text-book, and who are more productive of oral instruction and those familiar illustrations which are necessary to interest and inspire the mind for study.

A teacher may pass smoothly through a term of school, and please some of the scholars and patrons, and thus

while away the time and do a very sparing service to the district. Such feel not so much interest in their real work as in the pecuniary reward to be paid them.

A school may continue and live under such instruction, but it will not become what it might be with a more efficient and earnest teacher who has the *ability* and *will* to do the work, though all the elements oppose. The prosperity of our schools depends much upon the selection of teacher, and that devolves upon our Prudential Committees who should be governed only by what is for the best interests of the district. We have those teachers who will succeed wherever employed, and those who will do very well in some schools but will not succeed so well in others, and another class in no way calculated to meet the demands of any school. We believe a good short school is anywhere better than a miserable long one. Prudential Committees, may you consider and govern yourselves accordingly.

REFORM.

All does not depend upon the *teacher*. We need more of a public sentiment in behalf of our Common Schools. The prosperity of our Government and Free Institutions rests upon the enlightened condition of the people. If you have the feelings of a public citizen for the welfare of your State and County, you will be interested for your schools. If you would improve the business and intelligence of your Town, or the place where you live, you should first seek to elevate your schools, for to do this would be to improve the minds of your children, the society in which you move, and increase the prosperity of your business.

We need a larger appropriation for the support of our schools. You feel that the calamities of war have indebted our Town, and increased our taxes, yet you can practice economy in other ways rather than starving the minds

of your children, and thus withhold from them their richest legacy. With the closest economy some of our largest schools have but fourteen or fifteen weeks' schooling for the year. Our town can afford better than this. We should employ the means at hand to lengthen our schools and secure the services of competent teachers. We should thereby materially improve the condition of our schools.

Schools should be made interesting and attractive to scholars; for this purpose it is necessary to have good school-houses with pleasant surroundings and associations. Our school-houses, if not of a costly and ornamental structure, should always be made comfortable and convenient, and be furnished with text-books, outline maps, and the necessary apparatus for teaching.

Parents are often very tender of their children at home, and indulge them there in nearly every luxury and want. Too much cannot there be done for them. Some of these tender-hearted parents are very unmindful of their dear children's comfort at school! There may be no blinds or curtains to the windows nor a shade tree to keep out the pouring sun, nor a chart nor a map to those destitute walls. In the Winter the cold air streams in through the door and cracks below, and the room must be intensely heated to keep the feet from freezing. The heated air rises which soon causes the head to ache, and the minds of the scholars become dull and dreamy, and they are restless and inattentive to studies.

The desks have those high seats and straight backs, fitted only to make crooked spines and lay diseases for life. If you cannot have a model school-house furnished according to the most improved plans, you can have one adapted at least to the physical wants—one that will not hazard the health and lives of the scholars.

As public citizens and friends of education, it becomes you to guard well the interests of our Common Schools.

If you are really a tender and provident parent at home, you cannot well forget your children at school; but you will visit your school and see *what it is*, and what your school-room is; whether it be furnished to afford suitable facilities for the education of your children.

G. I. CUTLER,

Supt. School Com.

TABLE I.

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

DISTRICTS,	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.	XIII.
Length of School in weeks,	10.	9	8	7	8	7	6	7	8	8	8		7
Whole number of pupils,	29	62	19	21	24	12	44	21	24	17	52		43
Males,	12	26	10	11	12	5	24	8	13	2	22		14
Females,	17	36	9	10	12	7	20	13	11	15	30		29
Average attendance,	26	55	16	18	20	11	43	19	23	13	44	No Summer School.	37
Number of pupils over 16 years,	1	2	0	0	3	0	1	3	2	0	1		0
Number of tardinesses,	26	14	12	0	10	4	25	10	15	4	13		46
Number not absent one-half day,	12	24	1	4	1	5	41	6	24	12	27		13
Number not tardy,	20	49	14	21	19	9	23	5	15	4	3		22
Number neither absent or tardy,	11	23	1	6	1	4	23	2	2	2	2		8
Number of visits of Supt. Committee,	3	2	2	1	2	2	0	2	2	0	1		3
Number of visits of Prudential Committee,	1	70	1	0	2	1	0	2	2	0	1		1
Number of visits by Citizens and others,	63		19	28	38	38	33	25	40	19	11		26
Wages of Teacher per mo., including board, \$18 00	26 00	20 00	16 00	21 00	16 00	20 00	19 00	12 00	22 00	28 00			22 00

TABLE II.

WINTER SCHOOLS.

DISTRICTS,	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.	XIII.
Length of School in weeks,	9	8	9	8	11	10	10	9	10½	11	10	8	7
Whole number of pupils,	35	65	17	22	22	21	50	23	33	27	46	8	49
Males,	17	32	8	12	11	11	30	9	21	12	26	5	17
Females,	18	33	9	10	11	10	20	14	12	15	20	3	32
Average attendance,	42	50	13	19	18	18	46	21	26	18	39	7	45
Number of pupils over 16 years,	4	8	0	3	5	0	7	4	7	4	4	0	1
Number of tardinesses,	19	23	1	4	9	33	2	47	27	26	44	0	18
Number not absent one-half day,	11	5	1	2	6	5	25	6	5	1	9	3	15
Number not tardy,	20	56	16	20	16	3	49	9	16	9	24	8	36
Number neither absent or tardy,	6	5	1	3	6	3	23	2	1	0	5	3	17
Number of visits of Supt. Committee,	3	3	2	3	1	2	2	3	2	1	4	2	4
Number of visits of Prudential Committee,	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	1	2	0	2	1	3
Number of visits by Citizens and others,	44	48	22	40	30	9	32	26	36	15	50	13	45
Wages of Teacher per mo., including board,	\$23 00	34 00	20 00	22 00	27 00	20 00	26 00	22 00	24 00	29 00	40 00	16 00	30 00

TABLE III.

Dists.	Prudential Committee.	SUMMER SCHOOLS.		WINTER SCHOOLS.	
		Teachers.	Residence.	Teachers.	Residence.
No. 1.	Aaron Lebourveau,	Miss Ellen Taft,	Keene,	Miss Stella A. C. Wardwell,	Sullivan,
No. 2.	Silas Partridge,	Miss Harriet A. Parker,	Swanzy,	Miss Harriet A. Parker,	Swanzy,
No. 3.	Moses Worcester,	Miss Eugenia M. Lane,	Swanzy,	Miss Eugenia M. Lane,	Swanzy,
No. 4.	D. R. Marshall,	Miss Lucenia A. Holbrook,	Swanzy,	Miss Harriet A. Parker,	Swanzy,
No. 5.	George Moore,	Miss Ellen E. Prime,	Chesterfield,	Miss Mary S. Whitcomb,	West Swanzy,
No. 6.	Henry Clark,	Miss Mary L. Parker,	West Swanzy,	Miss Mary Eaton,	West Swanzy,
No. 7.	George Faulkner,	Miss Jennie M. Foster,	West Swanzy,	Miss Jennie L. Evans,	Halifax, Vt.,
No. 8.	James E. Bolles,	Miss Abbie A. Brigham,	Rindge,	Miss Abbie A. Brigham,	Rindge,
No. 9.	D. W. Harris,	Miss Ella E. Rockwood,	Swanzy,	Miss Emma E. Brown,	Keene,
No. 10.	W. C. Belding,	Miss Ellen S. Keith,	East Sullivan,	Miss Lucia E. Cook,	Chesterfield,
No. 11.	Joseph Parker,	Mrs. Louise B. Wright,	West Swanzy,	Mrs. Louisa B. Wright,	West Swanzy,
No. 12.	Jewett Hill,			Miss Jennie L. Evans,	Halifax, Vt.,
No. 13.	George Capron,	Miss Mary N. Parsons,	Swanzy,	Mrs. E. Jennie Cutler,	West Swanzy.

TABLE IV.

DISTRICTS.	Number of Scholars.	Amount to each District.	Amount to each Scholar.
No. 1.	38	\$82 53	\$2 17
No. 2.	71	168 06	2 36
No. 3.	22	79 61	3 62
No. 4.	29	73 22	2 52
No. 5.	28	123 73	4 42
No. 6.	21	65 81	3 13
No. 7.	54	99 36	1 84
No. 8.	23	93 85	4 08
No. 9.	36	88 08	2 45
No. 10.	35	136 61	3 90
No. 11.	64	179 92	2 81
No. 12.	8	40 37	5 04
No. 13.	57	119 95	2 10
	486	\$1,351 10	Av. \$2 78

Raised by Taxation,	\$1300 00
Literary Fund,	51 10

Total Public Fund,	\$1,351 10
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Divided by giving each District \$15, and the remainder according to the valuation.

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